



**Billing Code 4333–15**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Fish and Wildlife Service**

**[FWS–R2–ES–2019–N155; FXES11130200000–190–FF02ENEH00]**

**Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Recovery Permit Applications**

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of receipt of permit applications; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on the following applications for a permit to conduct activities intended to recover and enhance endangered species survival. With some exceptions, the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA), prohibits certain activities that may impact endangered species unless a Federal permit allows such activity. The ESA also requires that we invite public comment before issuing these permits.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, please send your written comments by **[INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*]**.

**ADDRESSES:** *Document availability:* Request documents by phone or email: Susan Jacobsen, 505–248–6641, [susan\\_jacobsen@fws.gov](mailto:susan_jacobsen@fws.gov).

*Comment submission:* Submit comments by U.S. mail to Susan Jacobsen, Classification and Recovery Division, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, NM 87103. Please specify the permit you are interested in by number (e.g., **Permit No. TE-123456**).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Susan Jacobsen, Chief, Classification and Restoration Division, 505–248–6641.

## **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

### **Background**

With some exceptions, the ESA prohibits activities that constitute take of listed species unless a Federal permit is issued that allows such activity. The ESA's definition of "take" includes hunting, shooting, harming, wounding, or killing but also such activities as pursuing, harassing, trapping, capturing, or collecting.

The ESA and our implementing regulations in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at title 50, part 17, provide for issuing such permits and require that we invite public comment before issuing permits for activities involving endangered species.

A recovery permit we issue under the ESA, section 10(a)(1)(A), authorizes the permittee to conduct activities with endangered or threatened species for scientific purposes that promote recovery or enhance the species' propagation or survival. These activities often include such prohibited actions as capture and collection. Our regulations implementing section 10(a)(1)(A) for these permits are found at 50 CFR 17.22 for endangered wildlife species, 50 CFR 17.32 for threatened wildlife species, 50 CFR 17.62 for endangered plant species, and 50 CFR 17.72 for threatened plant species.

### **Permit Applications Available for Review and Comment**

Documents and other information submitted with these applications are available for review by any party who submits a request as specified in **ADDRESSES**. Releasing documents is subject to Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a) and Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) requirements.

Proposed activities in the following permit requests are for the recovery and enhancement of propagation or survival of the species in the wild. We invite local, State, Tribal, and Federal

agencies and the public to submit written data, views, or arguments with respect to these applications. The comments and recommendations that will be most useful and likely to influence agency decisions are those supported by quantitative information or studies. Please refer to the application number when submitting comments.

Application Number	Applicant	Species	Location	Activity	Type of Take	Permit Action
TE-798998	Horizon Environmental Services, Inc.; Austin, Texas	Golden-cheeked warbler ( <i>Setophaga chrysoparia</i> ); interior least tern ( <i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i> ); Houston toad ( <i>Bufo houstonensis</i> ); American burying beetle ( <i>Nicrophorus americanus</i> ); ground beetles, no common name ( <i>Rhadine exilis</i> and <i>Rhadine infernalis</i> ); Helotes mold beetle ( <i>Batrisodes venyivi</i> ); Cokendolpher Cave harvestman ( <i>Texella cokendolpheri</i> ); Robber Baron Cave meshweaver ( <i>Cicurina baronia</i> ); Madla Cave meshweaver ( <i>Cicurina madla</i> ); Bracken Bat Cave meshweaver ( <i>Cicurina venii</i> ); Government Canyon Bat Cave meshweaver ( <i>Cicurina vespera</i> ); Government Canyon Bat Cave spider ( <i>Neoleptoneta microps</i> ); Tooth Cave spider ( <i>Neoleptoneta myopica</i> ); Tooth Cave pseudoscorpion ( <i>Tartarocreagris texana</i> ); Bee Creek Cave harvestman ( <i>Texella reddelli</i> );	Oklahoma, Texas	Presence/absence surveys, habitat surveys	Capture, harm, harass, injury, death	Renewal

		Kretschman Cave mold beetle ( <i>Texamaurops reddelli</i> ); Tooth Cave ground beetle ( <i>Rhadine persephone</i> ); Bone Cave harvestman ( <i>Texella reyesi</i> ); Coffin Cave mold beetle ( <i>Batrisodes texanus</i> )				
TE-39186D	Malaney, Jason L; Albuquerque, New Mexico	New Mexico meadow jumping mouse ( <i>Zapus hudsonius luteus</i> )	Arizona, New Mexico	Collection	Capture, collect, harm, harass,	New

					injury, death	
TE-071287-2	Christman, Bruce; Albuquerque, New Mexico	New Mexican ridge-nosed rattlesnake ( <i>Crotalus willardi obscurus</i> ), Narrow-headed gartersnake, Northern Mexican gartersnake ( <i>Thamnophis eques megalops</i> ), Chiricahua leopard frog ( <i>Lithobates chiricahuensis</i> ), Jemez Mountains salamander ( <i>Plethodon neomexicanus</i> )	Arizona, New Mexico	Presence/absence surveys	Capture, injury, death	Renewal
TE-078189-1	Adkins Consulting Inc.; Durango, Colorado	Southwestern Willow flycatcher ( <i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> ), Mexican spotted owl ( <i>Strix occidentalis lucida</i> )	Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah	Presence/absence surveys	Harm, harass	Renewal

TE-36648D	Camba, Matthew O.; Mesa, Arizona	Yellow-billed cuckoo ( <i>Coccyzus americanus</i> )	Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, Utah, Wyoming	Presence/absence surveys	Harass, harm	New
TE-30425B	Hagyari, David; Broken Arrow, Oklahoma	American burying beetle ( <i>Nicrophorus americanus</i> )	Arizona, Oklahoma, Texas	Presence/absence surveys	Capture, injury, death	Renewal
TE-076050	McAlester Army Ammunition Plant; McAlester, Oklahoma	American burying beetle ( <i>Nicrophorus americanus</i> )	Oklahoma	Presence/absence surveys	Capture, injury, death	Renewal

TE-037155	Bio-West (Oborny); Roound Rock, Texas	Comal Springs riffle beetle ( <i>Heterelmis comalensis</i> ), Comal Springs dryopid beetle ( <i>Stygoparnus comalensis</i> ), Peck's Cave amphipod ( <i>Stygobromus (=stygonectes) pecki</i> ), southwestern willow flycatcher ( <i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> ), Georgetown salamander ( <i>Eurycea naufragia</i> ), Salado salamander ( <i>Eurycea chisholmensis</i> ), San Marcos salamander ( <i>Eurycea nana</i> ), Colorado pikeminnow ( <i>Ptychocheilus lucius</i> ), Rio Grande silvery minnow ( <i>Hybognathus amarus</i> ), sharpnose shiner ( <i>Notropis oxyrhynchus</i> ), smalleye shiner ( <i>Notropis buccula</i> ), Texas hornshell ( <i>Popenaias popeii</i> )	California, Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada, Texas, Utah	Presence/absence surveys, capture, collection	Capture, harass, injury, death	Renewal
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TE-17907C	Landhawk Consulting LLC; Pharr, Texas	Ocelot ( <i>Leopardus (=felis) pardalis</i> ), Gulf Coast jaguarundi ( <i>Herpailurus (=felis) yagouaroundi cacomitli</i> ), piping plover ( <i>Charadrius melodus</i> ), red knot ( <i>Calidris canutus rufa</i> ), Louisiana pine snake ( <i>Pituophis ruthveni</i> ), star cactus ( <i>Astrophytum asterias</i> ), Zapata bladderpod ( <i>Lesquerella thamnophila</i> ), ashy dogweed ( <i>Thymophylla tephroleuca</i> ), Walker's manioc ( <i>Manihot walkerae</i> ), South Texas ambrosia ( <i>Ambrosia cheiranthifolia</i> ), Slender rush-pea ( <i>Hoffmannseggia tenella</i> ), Texas snowbells ( <i>Styrax texanus</i> ), black lace cactus ( <i>Echinocereus reichenbachii</i> var. <i>albertii</i> ), Tobusch fishhook cactus ( <i>Sclerocactus brevihamatus</i> ssp. <i>tobuschii</i> ), Houston toad ( <i>Bufo houstonensis</i> )	Alabama, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas	Presence/absence surveys, biomonitoring, habitat assessment, nest monitoring	Harass, harm	Amendment
TE-232639	DESCO Environmental Consultants; Magnolia, Texas	American burying beetle ( <i>Nicrophorus americanus</i> ), red-cockaded woodpecker ( <i>Picoides borealis</i> )	Oklahoma, Texas	Presence/absence surveys	Capture, harass, harm, injury, death	Renewal

TE-13914B	Coons, Justin H; Skiatook, Oklahoma	American burying beetle ( <i>Nicrophorus americanus</i> )	Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma	Presence/absence surveys	Capture, harm, injury, death	Renewal
TE-078347	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 2, Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge; Ajo, Arizona	Sonoran pronghorn ( <i>Antilocapra americana sonoriensis</i> )	Arizona	Captive propagation	Capture, harm, harass, injury, death	Renewal
TE-103314	Tanner, Jon Matthew; McGregor, Texas	Interior least tern ( <i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i> )	New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas	Presence/absence surveys	Harass	Renewal

TE-818118	Henson, Jeremy; Georgetown, Texas	Texas hornshell ( <i>Popenaias popeii</i> ), clubshell ( <i>Pleurobema clava</i> ), fanshell ( <i>Cyprogenia stegaria</i> ), fat pocketbook ( <i>Potamilus capax</i> ), Higgins eye ( <i>Lampsilis higginsii</i> ), northern riffleshell ( <i>Epioblasma torulosa rangiana</i> ), orangefoot pimpleback ( <i>Plethobasus cooperianus</i> ), pink mucket ( <i>Lampsilis abrupta</i> ), purple cat's paw ( <i>Epioblasma obliquata obliquata</i> ), rayed bean ( <i>Villosa fabalis</i> ), scaleshell mussel ( <i>Leptodea leptodon</i> ), sheepnose mussel ( <i>Plethobasus cyphus</i> ), snuffbox mussel ( <i>Epioblasma triquetra</i> ), spectaclecase ( <i>Cumberlandia monodonta</i> ), white catspaw ( <i>Epioblasma obliquata perobliqua</i> )	Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin	Presence/absence surveys	Capture, harm, harass	Amendment
TE57462D	Souther, Sara; Flagstaff, Arizona	Kearney's blue-star ( <i>Amsonia kearneyana</i> )	Arizona	Breeding system assessment, structured seed augmentation, species introduction	Harm, death	New

TE57474D	Lassiter, Timonthy; Boerne, Texas	Golden-cheeked warbler ( <i>Setophaga chrysoparia</i> )	Texas	Presence/absence surveys	Harm, harass	New
TE57474D	Putnam, Stephanie; Austin, Texas	Golden-cheeked warbler ( <i>Setophaga chrysoparia</i> )	Texas	Presence/absence surveys	Harm, harass	New
TE236730	Bonner, Timothy; San Marcos, Texas	Comal Springs riffle beetle ( <i>Heterelmis comalensis</i> ), Devils River minnow ( <i>Dionda diaboli</i> ), fountain darter ( <i>Etheostoma fonticola</i> ), San Marcos salamander ( <i>Eurycea nana</i> ), San Marcos gambusia ( <i>Gambusia georgei</i> ), Texas wild-rice ( <i>Zizania texana</i> )	Texas	Presence/absence surveys	Harm, harass	Renewal

TE40886B	Biological Resources, LLC,; Durango, Colorado	Black-footed ferret ( <i>Mustela nigripes</i> ), southwestern willow flycatcher ( <i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> ), Mexican spotted owl ( <i>Strix occidentalis lucida</i> ), New Mexico meadow jumping mouse ( <i>Zapus hudsonius luteus</i> )	Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, Utah	Presence/absence surveys	Harm, harass	Renewal
TE37416B	Cambrian Environmental; Austin, Texas	Houston toad ( <i>Bufo houstonensis</i> ), San Marcos salamander ( <i>Eurycea nana</i> ), Texas blind salamander ( <i>Typhlomolge rathbuni</i> )	Texas	Presence/absence surveys, monitor, capture, handle, measure	Harm, harass	Renewal
TE43754A	Turner Endangered Species Fund; Bozeman, Montana	Chiricahua leopard frog ( <i>Rana chiricahuensis</i> ), Chupadera springsnail ( <i>Pyrgulopsis chupaderae</i> )	New Mexico	Presence/absence surveys	Harm, harass	Renewal
TE57477D	WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff; Albuquerque, New Mexico	Southwestern willow flycatcher ( <i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> ), Mexican spotted owl ( <i>Strix occidentalis lucida</i> ), Chiricahua leopard frog ( <i>Rana chiricahuensis</i> ), yellow-billed cuckoo ( <i>Coccyzus americanus</i> ), Jemez Mountains salamander ( <i>Plethodon neomexicanus</i> )	Arizona, California, Nevada, New Mexico	Presence/absence surveys	Harm, harass	New

TE800900	Lower Colorado River Authority; Austin, Texas	Golden-cheeked warbler ( <i>Setophaga chrysoparia</i> ), interior least tern ( <i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i> ), Houston toad ( <i>Bufo houstonensis</i> ), southwestern willow flycatcher ( <i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> ), piping plover ( <i>Charadrius melodus</i> )	Texas	Presence/absence surveys	Harm; harass	Renewal
TE819491	Ecosphere Environmenta;; Durango, Colorado	Southwestern willow flycatcher ( <i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> ), Mexican spotted owl ( <i>Strix occidentalis lucida</i> ), Chiricahua leopard frog ( <i>Rana chiricahuensis</i> ), yellow-billed cuckoo ( <i>Coccyzus americanus</i> ), black-footed ferret ( <i>Mustela nigripes</i> )	Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, Utah	Presence/absence surveys	Harm, harass	Renewal
TE08394B	USFS, Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest; Springerville, Arizona	Southwestern willow flycatcher ( <i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> ), Mexican spotted owl ( <i>Strix occidentalis lucida</i> ), Chiricahua leopard frog ( <i>Rana chiricahuensis</i> ), Gila chub ( <i>Gila intermedia</i> ), spikedace ( <i>Mega fulgida</i> ), loach minnow ( <i>Tiaroga cobitis</i> ), razorback sucker ( <i>Xyrauchen texanus</i> ), Three	Arizona	Presence/absence surveys	Harm, harass	Renewal

		Forks springsnail ( <i>Pyrgulopsis trivialis</i> )				
TE942425B	Powers, Jarrod; Stillwater, Oklahoma	Neosho mucket ( <i>Lampsilis rafinesqueana</i> ), Ouachita rock pocketbook ( <i>Arkansia wheeleri</i> ), scaleshell ( <i>Leptodea leptodon</i> ), winged mapleleaf ( <i>Quadrula fragosa</i> )	Oklahoma	Presence/absence surveys	Harm, harass	Amendment
TE160521	Tetra Tech; Salt Lake City, Utah	Southwestern willow flycatcher ( <i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> )	Arizona, Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, Wyoming, Utah	Presence/absence surveys	Harass	Renewal
TE44542B	Olsson Associates; Oklahoma City, Oklahoma	Gray bat ( <i>Myotis griscescens</i> ), Neosho mucket ( <i>Lampsilis rafinesqueana</i> )	Illinois, Indiana, Missouri	Presence/absence surveys	Harm/harass	Amendment
TE59346D	Johnson, Matthew; Austin, Texas	Freshwater mussel spp.	Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Wisconsin	Presence/absence surveys	Harm/harass	New

TE103314	Tanner, Matthew; McGregor, Texas	Least tern ( <i>Sterna antillarum athalassos</i> )	Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Texas	Presence/absence surveys	Harass	Renewal
TE59554D	Stanek, Jenna; Los Alamos, New Mexico	Southwestern willow flycatcher ( <i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> )	New Mexico	Presence/absence surveys	Harass	New
TE053085	Bureau of Reclamation, Boulder City, Nevada	Southwestern willow flycatcher ( <i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> ), bonytail chub ( <i>Gila elegans</i> ), razorback sucker ( <i>Xyrauchen texanus</i> )	Arizona	Presence/absence surveys	Harm/harass	Renewal
TE819451	Travis County Transportation and Natural Resources	Golden-cheeked warbler ( <i>Setophaga chrysoparia</i> ), Karst spp.	Texas	Presence/absence surveys	Harm/harass	Renewal
TE822908	Caesar Kleburg Wildlife Research Institute; Kingsville, Texas	Ocelot ( <i>Lepardus</i> (= <i>Felis</i> ) <i>pardalis</i> ), jaguarundi ( <i>Herpailurus yagouaroundi</i> )	Texas	Collect blood, semen samples, and fecal materials	Harm/harass	Renewal



TE59909D	Bell, Leslie; Austin, Texas	Karst spp.	Texas	Presence/absence surveys	Harm/harass	New
TE060125	Salt River Project Agricultural Improvement and Power District; Phoenix, Arizona	Southwestern willow flycatcher ( <i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> )	Arizona	Presence/absence surveys	Harm/harass	Renewal
TE63216D	Porter, James Mark; Claremont, California	Sneed pincushion cactus ( <i>Coryphantha [Escobaria] sneedii</i> )	New Mexico, Texas	Seed collection	Harm	New
TE63430D	Hamilton, Gregor; Albuquerque, New Mexico	spikedace ( <i>Meda fulgida</i> ), loach minnow ( <i>Tiaroga cobitis</i> )	New Mexico	Presence/absence surveys, collect scale clips	Harm, harass	New

## **Public Availability of Comments**

All comments and materials we receive in response to these requests will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the address listed in

### **ADDRESSES.**

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

## **Authority**

We provide this notice under section 10 of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

Dated: January 27, 2020.

**Amy L. Lueders,**

*Regional Director,*

*Southwest Region,*

*U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

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